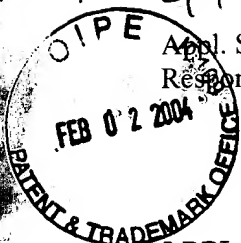


471
App. Serial No. 09/674,399
Response to O.A. dated December 30, 2003

3643
Attorney Docket No. P03958US1-137



PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Stephen Cate et al.
SERIAL NO. : 09/674,399
FILED : November 26, 2002
TITLE : METHOD AND MEANS FOR FILLING NATURAL CASING
SAUSAGES
Group/A.U. : 3643
Examiner : Richard Thomas PRICE, JR.
Conf. No. : 8426
Docket No. : P03958US1-137

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AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

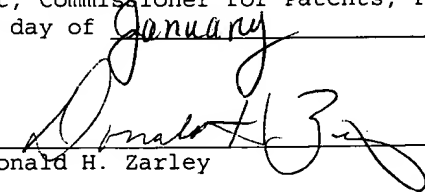
Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 30, 2003,
please consider the following remarks:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(A))

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclose
therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail
addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 30th day of January 2004.


Donald H. Zarley